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PEOPLE

Press Club Suit Threat

The Nashville Tennessean has threatened to bring suit under the Civil Rights Act against the all-male National Press Club if its female correspondent is not admitted to membership.

An attorney for the Nashville Tennessean wrote the club Dec. 21 on behalf of the newspaper's Capitol Hill reporter, Elaine Shannon, 24.

Yesterday at her parents' home in Gainesville, Ga., Miss Shannon said by telephone she approved the paper's action "as a matter of principle." She seemed slightly embarrassed about

the publicity surrounding her test case. "There are plenty of other, more serious things for journalists to worry about — such as the war — than who belongs to whose press club." But she said she would be an active participant if elected.

The proposed suit will become academic if the club votes at its next meeting Jan. 15 to admit women members. The issue was defeated in a referendum last October, but supporters are confident it will pass this time.